

## COMMENTARY

relationships. Psychiatry can provide a bridge between soma and psyche, but only if it encompasses both.

Yager<sup>11</sup> feels that human behavior is too complex to be treated from one point of view alone. A psychiatrist, in order to effect the best possible solution to a clinical situation, must know behavioral science, biology, and many types of therapy. Above all, the psychiatrist must be flexible so that he can choose from a variety of therapeutic possibilities. Lesse warned against the worship of "rating scales": over-objectification at the expense of teaching psychotherapy.<sup>12</sup> He feels psychiatry must move to a new level, by interrelating the psychobiological, psychodynamic and psychosocial into a total psychiatry. If this can be done, and if we do not cast off psychotherapy in our zest for neurobiology, the marriage can survive. Psychiatry must expand, not contract. And we in psychiatry must take pains to explain to our medical colleagues that psychotherapy, in tandem with the more "medical" aspects of psychiatry, has much that is unique and important to offer. An eclectic psychiatry, properly applied, can be beneficial to psychiatric and non-psychiatric patients alike.

Is divorce imminent? We must say yes. As Dogherty<sup>9</sup> clearly showed, combining a medical-objective and psychotherapeutic-subjective view of patients is a very difficult task. The pressures for separation are immense. But the benefits to mankind, if the marriage can be saved, are great. If psychiatry broadens, by keeping what it now has and expanding into newer areas, we will all be the better for it. But it will take a lot of work to keep the marriage together. I vote we try.

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## Antibiotic Prophylaxis of the Eyelids

THE LID MARGINS are waterproof. They shed tears, as we all know; they are covered with mybomian secretion and they resist antibiotics in an aqueous vehicle. So, for preoperative preparation, one must use an antistaphylococcal ointment.

—HENRY F. ALLEN, MD, *Boston*

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